

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the remarks which follow.

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 11-13.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 11-15, and 17-20 are now pending in this application. Claim 14 has been amended to respond to the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph. No new matter is introduced by the amendment. Claims 17-20 are newly added. Support for new claims 17 and 18 can be found in the originally filed claims and in the specification (e.g., at page 6, lines 7-18). Support for new claims 19 and 20 can be found in the originally filed claims and in the specification (e.g., at page 5, lines 12-25).

35 U.S.C. 112, First Paragraph

In the Office Action dated April 8, 2003, the Examiner stated:

Claims 11-14 [sic] are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The Examiner noted on the Office Action Summary that claims 11-13 are allowed, and based on the Examiner's remarks, Applicants presume that "11-14" is a typographical oversight that was intended to be "14-16."

To respond to the Examiner's rejection, Applicants have amended claim 14, and similarly rejected claims 15 and 16 that depend from claim 14. In particular, Applicants have amended claim 14 to address Examiner's remarks in regard to "memory restoring activity" and "using any p53 deficient animal to screen for compounds that restore any type of memory as broadly claimed." As amended, claim 14 recites "[a] method for identifying compounds with long-term memory restoring activity." Further, amended claim 14 recites "an animal comprising at least one a non-functional allele of the p53 gene." Finally, amended claim 14 recites that "the animal

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has a diminished capacity to recall a previous test." Applicants believe that the amendments are fully responsive to the Examiner's remarks in regard to the breadth of "memory restoring activity" as previously claimed and in regard to the breadth of "any p53 deficient animal" as previously claimed. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. 112, First Paragraph.

Applicants note that the Examiner has not provided initialed copies of the Forms PTO-1449 filed on February 20, 2001 and April 25, 2001. Applicants request that the Examiner provide initialed copies of these two Forms to indicate that the cited references have been considered.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 6/25/03

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